



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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MILK PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, AND INCOME

WEST VIRGINIA -- Milk production totaled 194 million pounds during 2005, the same as 2004. The average number of milk cows was 13,000 head, the same as 2004. Average milk production per cow was 14,923 pounds, the same as 2004.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2005 totaled \$29.8 million, down 5 percent from the 2004 cash receipts. Producer returns averaged \$15.60 per hundredweight, down 90 cents from 2004. Milk marketed by producers totaled 191 million pounds in 2005, the same as in 2004. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers as well as milk sold directly to consumers.

UNITED STATES -- Milk production increased 3.5 percent in 2005 to 177 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 19,576 pounds, was 609 pounds above 2004. The annual average number of milk cows on farms was 9.04 million head, up 29,000 head from 2004.

Cash receipts from marketings of milk during 2005 totaled \$26.7 billion, 2.4 percent lower than 2004. Producer returns averaged \$15.20 per hundredweight, 5.8 percent below 2004. Marketings totaled 176 billion pounds, 3.6 percent above 2004. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers and milk sold directly to consumers.

An estimated 1.08 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 2.4 percent less than 2004. Calves were fed 87 percent of this milk, with the remainder consumed in producer households.

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